

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 551

October 27, 1995, 8:41 p.m.
Page S-16034 Temp. Record

BALANCED BUDGET RECONCILIATION/Employee Stock Ownership Plans

SUBJECT: **Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995 . . . S. 1357. Domenici motion to table the Simon/Stevens/Breaux amendment No. 3035.**

ACTION: MOTION TO TABLE AGREED TO, 56-42

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 1357, the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995, will result in a balanced budget in seven years, as scored by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO). The bill will also provide a \$245 billion middle-class tax cut, \$141.4 billion of which will be to provide a \$500 per child tax credit.

The Simon/Stevens/Breaux amendment would delay for 2 years the repeal of the 50-percent interest exclusion given to banks for the interest they earn on loans they give for the establishment of employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs).

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of debate was permitted, and some statements were inserted in the record. Following debate, Senator Domenici moved to table the amendment. Generally, those favoring the motion to table opposed the amendment; those opposing the motion to table favored the amendment.

Those favoring the motion to table contended:

The amendment would lose \$500 million over 7 years by keeping open for 2 more years this corporate welfare loophole. This loophole is enormous, and should be closed. We therefore oppose this amendment.

Those opposing the motion to table contended:

No hearings have been held on the elimination of section 133, which permits banks to exclude half of their interest income on loans they give to establish ESOPs. If hearings were held, Senators would learn that only 50 ESOPs per year are established on average, and they would also learn that every analysis ever done of them has found that they improve productivity. Even the Chamber

(See other side)

YEAS (56)			NAYS (42)			NOT VOTING (1)	
Republicans (50 or 96%)		Democrats (6 or 13%)	Republicans (2 or 4%)	Democrats (40 or 87%)		Republicans (1)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Helms	Bradley	Coats	Akaka	Kennedy	Kassebaum- ²	
Ashcroft	Hutchison	Bryan	Stevens	Baucus	Kerrey		
Bennett	Inhofe	Dorgan		Biden	Kerry		
Bond	Jeffords	Feingold		Bingaman	Kohl		
Brown	Kempthorne	Johnston		Boxer	Lautenberg		
Burns	Kyl	Moynihan		Breaux	Leahy		
Campbell	Lott			Bumpers	Levin		
Chafee	Lugar			Byrd	Lieberman		
Cochran	Mack			Conrad	Mikulski		
Cohen	McCain			Daschle	Moseley-Braun		
Coverdell	McConnell			Dodd	Murray		
Craig	Murkowski			Exon	Nunn		
D'Amato	Nickles			Feinstein	Pell		
DeWine	Pressler			Ford	Pryor		
Dole	Roth			Glenn	Reid		
Domenici	Santorum			Graham	Robb		
Faircloth	Shelby			Harkin	Rockefeller		
Frist	Simpson			Heflin	Sarbanes		
Gorton	Smith			Hollings	Simon		
Gramm	Snowe			Inouye	Wellstone		
Grams	Specter						
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hatch	Thurmond						
Hatfield	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business
2—Necessarily Absent
3—Illness
4—Other

SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea
AN—Announced Nay
PY—Paired Yea
PN—Paired Nay

of Commerce says that they increase productivity by between 3 percent and 17 percent. Anything that the Senate can do to increase the productivity of American workers should be encouraged, considering global competitive pressures and the steady loss of jobs overseas that has been occurring recently. Further, in these days of soaring corporate profits and stagnant employee wages, we see ESOPs as a way of guaranteeing fairer employee treatment, because when employees themselves own their companies, they are not, to put it mildly, as intent on driving down their own wages during periods of record profitability. In our opinion, the revenue gains from eliminating this rarely used exclusion have been greatly exaggerated, and we are confident that hearings would expose this fact, plus they would convince Senators of the worth of ESOPs. We therefore favor the Simon/Stevens amendment, to give Senators a little more time to consider this exclusion before they do away with it.